

Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues
May 21, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Linda Evans, Alison Stroud, Larry Keeler, Lloyd Shelton,
Amy Shepherd, Sally Petersen, West Resendes

Commissioners Excused: None

Sign Language Interpreter: Carmen Johnson

CTN Operator: Robert Hughes

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Evans called the meeting to order at 3:16 p.m. The Commissioners individually introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Agenda

Vice Chair Stroud motioned, seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, that the agenda be approved as amended by removing III. Presentations, b. Jeanine Delay – A2 Ethics. Motion carries.

III. Presentations

a. Ira Lax from the Ann Arbor Public Library announced upcoming events and programs for the month of May at the library, as well as the Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. Contact aadl.org or call 327-4000 for a list of current programs. 327-4224 to reach Library for the Blind.

IV. Public Comments

a. City Liaison Amy Seavitt read an email from Erin Lauridsen regarding the use of Uber and Lyft services in Ann Arbor.

V. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes

Commissioner Keeler motioned, seconded by Commissioner Resendes to approve the April 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes as amended by correcting the spelling of Michael Benham's name in III. Presentations Part B. All in favor. Motion carries.

VI. Old Business

a. City Personnel Report – None

b. Chair Report

1. Chairperson Evans spoke about the disclaimer for full inclusion that CTN is incorporating for those blind and visually impaired. The Commission reviewed the wording included in the packet material. Commissioner Shepherd motioned to approve, Commissioner Keeler seconded. Discussion ensued. Six in favor. One abstention.
2. Chairpersons Evans announced that CTN will begin closed captioning in July with the verbal disclaimer. Greg McDonald and Lisa Wondrash from CTN will also present in July to inform the viewing audience the changes they will be seeing.
3. Chairperson Evans announced the commission retreat scheduled the following week.
4. Chairperson Evans discussed the July elections for Chair and Vice Chair.

c. Recruiting Committee

1. Commissioner Keeler provided contact information for those interested in being on the Commission. They may contact the City Liaison, Amy Seavitt, at (734) 794-6122 or reach out to the Mayor's Office at (734) 794-6161 for an application. Applications are also available online through the City Clerk's website and on the Disability Resources Page.
2. Commissioner Keeler also suggested speaking at organizations dealing with disabilities.

d. Community Engagement Committee

1. Chairperson Evans spoke about the A2 Blooms Day event that took place. Several Commissioners assisted in cleaning up the sensory garden in Liberty Plaza.
2. Chairpersons Evans gave contact information for City Liaison, Amy Seavitt, as well as Quinton at National Area Preservation for donations.
3. Chairperson Evans discussed scheduling a meeting with the committee regarding a new idea involving Access Ann Arbor.

e. Partners in Access Committee

1. Vice Chair Stroud read the Commission the letter requesting additional accessible parking. Vice Chair Stroud motioned to approve, Commissioner Keeler seconded. Discussion ensued. All in favor.
2. Vice Chair Stroud discussed the meeting the committee held and the next steps for the Accessible Pedestrian Signals used for citizens crossing the street at intersections. A checklist has been drafted and Commissioners who have volunteered will inspect intersections with APS throughout Ann Arbor. It will be reviewed at the next committee meeting.
3. Vice Chair Stroud also spoke about disability awareness and driver sensitivity to riders for the AAATA. Those looking to contact AAATA to ask questions or file a complaint may visit www.theride.org/customerservice or call at (734) 973-6500. (734) 973-6997 for TTY phone. An email draft has been prepared to send to the AAATA and will be reviewed at the committee meeting for the June packet.

f. Ad Hoc Committee

1. Chairperson Evans announced that the committee is in the final checking process for the website and will tentatively be completed by the June meeting.

VII. New Business

- a. Commissioner Petersen highlighted the U of M Council for Disability Concerns' May meeting minutes and potential licensing issues with Uber and Lyft services.
- b. Chairperson Evans announced the formation of a voting committee for the upcoming July elections. Commissioner Keeler and Commissioner Resendes volunteered to coordinate the memo for the voting process.

VIII. Announcements

- a. Commissioner Keeler gave a recap of the Birding By Ear program.
- b. Vice Chair Stroud announced a fundraiser coordinated by the LTZ Foundation taking place on June 7. The foundation raises money for scholarships for deaf and hard of hearing students so that these students can better afford college.

IX. Adjournment – Chairperson Evans adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.

Submitted by: Amy Seavitt, HR Coordinator